

A.

今天是圣诞节，我们要在此代表“在加学英语”节目组的全体工作人员向观众朋友们致以节日的问候。

V. Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to you and yours.

A.

祝大家在圣诞和新年节日期间身体健康、万事如意，能过一个快乐、平安、喜庆的节日。

V. 刚才的问候话Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to you and yours.看似简单，其中也有两个语言点值得提一下。

A.

一个许多人耳熟能详的简单的节日问候语，究竟其中有什么语言点呢，我们一起来了解一下。

V. 首先，细心的朋友一定注意到了，问候语中除了Merry Christmas之外，还出现了Happy Holidays。

A.

要注意的是holiday的复数形式，我想原因是从11月底到12月到1月，在世界各地有不少节日，例如感恩节、圣诞节、元旦等等。

V.

而且有些公司和单位圣诞节放假可能也不止就圣诞节那一天，可能会持续一周左右时间，因此每个放假日都像一个holiday一样。

A. 这样解释就明白了，所以如果在年底岁末祝福别人时，我们可以直接说Happy Holidays，要注意使用holiday的复数形式就可以了。

V.

这里其实还有一个文化方面的注意事项，虽然Christmas是传统西方节日，不过美国和加拿大是非常多文化、多民族、多宗教的社会。

A.

言外之意就是，因为宗教、信仰等原因，并不是所有人都庆祝圣诞节，因此有时候Merry Christmas这样的节日问候可能有点不太合适。

V. 细心的朋友也一定注意到了，节日期间许多地方的祝福语更多的是Happy Holidays，这就是西方社会非常注重的politically correct。

A. politically correct? 意思是“政治上正确”，这究竟是什么意思呢？

V. politically correct指的是在语言使用上避免使用涉及种族歧视、性别歧视或宗教歧视的词语。

A. 这时候经常使用较为中立的词语，以免冒犯到别人，并且显示对不同宗教、文化的敏感和尊重。

V. 这么说有点笼统，我们还是举些例子来看，第一个例子相信许多人知道，就是表示主席的chairman一词。

A. chairman一词本身没有任何，不过现在很多时候人们使用的是chairperson。

V. 是的，原因就是chairman中的man一词，一些女权主义者会质疑：为什么主席就要是man呢，因此人们就采用比较中性的chairperson。

A. 这个例子中，使用politically correct的语言是为了避免因为性别而产生的歧视和冒犯。

V. 第二个例子是，在美国形容黑人时，人们传统上使用black，不过随着人权运动兴起，现在很多媒体和报刊都使用African American。

A. African American: 非洲裔美国人，这种politically correct的语言是为了避免因为种族而产生的歧视和冒犯。

V. 第三个例子在生活中也很常见，表示老人最简单的表达是old person，不过很多地方会使用senior citizen。

A. senior citizen，字面意思是“年长的公民”，这种politically correct的语言是为了避免因为年龄而产生的歧视和冒犯。

V. 最后一个例子是描述“智力有障碍的”，英语中这样的单词有好几个，不过最为人接受的是mentally challenged。

A. mentally challenged 脑力上受到挑战的，这是为了避免因为身体机能而产生的歧视和冒犯。

V. 上面我们举的几个例子都是日常生活中经常见到的使用politically

correct语言的实例，英语中这样的例子还有许多。

A.

观众朋友们在平时的学习和交流中一定要多加留意，这样就不仅可以了解到更多的英语知识，同时对其背后的文化含义也会有所认识。

V.

并且，将这些语言正确、适当地用于自己的表达当中，也就可以避免不小心对别人造成冒犯和不快。

A.

其实无独有偶，在汉语表达中好像也有“政治正确”、“政治上正确”这样的表达，特别是在早些年的时候。

V.

是的，不过在中国的社会和政治环境中，“政治上正确”指的是在做任何事的时候，都要保证意识形态符合党和政府的路线、方针和政策。

A.

也就是说在中国报刊媒体上经常出现和见到的“与党中央保持一致”、“走正确的政治道路”等等。

V.

所以，虽然英语中的politically correct翻译成汉语意思也是“政治正确性”，但两者在含义上是截然不同的。

A. 观众朋友们一定要注意比较和区别，否则使用不当会造成很大的误解。

V.

好的，今天的节目到这里就结束了，我们在节目中应景，就着Merry Christmas和Happy Holidays这样的祝福话和大家聊了聊一些英语文化和知识。

A.

两个简简单单的节日问候语背后竟然也有一些文化方面的含义，真是挺有意思的，希望观众朋友觉得我们今天的节目有趣而有用。

Premiere the film held its world premiere.

Screening = showing

Big shot

What kind of movie is it?

It's a _____.
*It's a comedy. It's a sci-fi. It's a horror.
It's an action movie. It's a romantic comedy.*

Actors/Stars

Who is in it?

_____ is in it.

Who's starring in it?

_____ is starring in it.

Orlando Bloom is in it.

Setting/Background

Where does it take place?

It's set in _____.

When does it take place?

It takes place in _____.

It's set in New York in the 60s.

It takes place on the moon in the future.

It takes place in a prison.

Plot/Story

What's it about?

It's about _____ who _____.

What happens in it?

It's about two young people who fall in love on a sinking ship. It's about a meteor that is going to destroy the Earth.

Climax

How does it end?

In the end, _____.

What happens in the end?

In the end, the ring is destroyed.

In the end, Harry decides he really loves Sally.

Reviews

What did the critics say?

The critics _____.

What kind of reviews did it get?

It got _____ reviews.

The critics said it was good. The critics panned it. The critics raved about it. It got great reviews. It got poor reviews.

A: I'm bored. Do you want to do something tonight?

B: Sure. What do you feel like doing?

A: Well, the film festival is in town. And *I'm in the mood for seeing a movie.* How does that sound?

B: I could go for a movie. What's playing?

A: 'Attack from Planet Q' is playing at the Odeon theatre.

B: What's that about?

A: It's a sci-fi about aliens who invade China.
It takes place along the Great Wall during the Ming Dynasty.

B: Who's in it?

A: It's starring Will Smith. He plays a palace guard who uncovers an alien plot to kill the Emperor.

B: What do the critics say about it?

A: The critics say it's frightening and entertaining. It won 'Best Film' at the Cannes Film Festival.

B: OK. Let's see that. What time does it start?

A: Show times are at 6:45 and 8:30.

B: Why don't we catch the 8:30 so that we can have a bite to eat before we go?

Martin: What did you think of that movie?

Joanna: It was okay, but I'm not really into **big-budget** movies with a lot of **special effects** and **big-name stars**.

Martin: Oh, you're a film **snob**. I bet you only watch **indie** films made on a **shoestring budget** with low **production values**.

Joanna: No, that's not true. I just don't like **crowd-pleasers** that are **predictable**. I like movies that **stretch the imagination** and have some **artistic value**.

Martin: You mean you like those weird movies with no plot and a lot of strange characters. They're **artsy**, but leave you totally **confused**.

Joanna: I don't mind some **ambiguity**, if that's what you mean.

Martin: Well, I'm going to see the new Spiderboy movie next week. I **don't suppose** you want to come?

Joanna: Spiderboy? I've been looking forward to seeing that movie.

Martin: But it's a big-budget **blockbuster**.

Joanna: I can't watch artsy films all the time. **Variety is the spice of life**, don't you think?

B: Let's go see a movie tonight.

M: Sure.

B: Let me check the newspaper listing.

M: I want to see the new Harrison Ford flick.

B: That's what I have in mind. There's a 7: 30 show at the mall cinema.

M: Seven thirty sounds good.

B: I'll pick you up at 7.

M: Shouldn't we go earlier? There could be a long line at the ticket window.

B: I've never had to wait more than 5 minutes for movie tickets!

I'd like to buy two tickets for XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX.

I am sorry the 7 o'clock premier is sold out. Would you like to purchase the tickets for the 9PM showing?

Been looking forward to seeing this blockbuster for a long time.

I'll take two tickets for the 9 o'clock show.

Popcorn